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4 ~~164~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~163~~ wherein said slidable link has an arm which passes through said trigger and into said triggerbar.

5 ~~165~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~164~~ wherein said linkage provides an axle for said triggerbar to pivot about.

6 ~~166~~. (new): In a firearm having a sear, a trigger, a triggerbar capable of rotation relative to said trigger, and a longitudinally slidable firing element; a passive safety mechanism comprising:

a. a blocking piece to block said firing element; and

b. a slidable linkage, distinct from said triggerbar, which connects said blocking piece to said trigger.

7 ~~167~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~166~~ wherein said trigger is longitudinally slidable.

8 ~~168~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~166~~ wherein said blocking piece is slidable.

9 ~~169~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~166~~ wherein said slidable linkage comprises a slidable link.

10 ~~170~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~166~~ wherein said blocking piece acts directly upon a sear catch of said firing element.

11 ~~171~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~166~~ wherein a positive stop limits the maximum downward position of said blocking piece.

12 ~~172~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~171~~ wherein said positive stop comprises a mandrel for a torsion spring.

13 ~~173~~. (new): In a firearm having a frame, a sear, a trigger, a triggerbar capable of rotation relative to said trigger, and a longitudinally slidable firing element; a passive safety mechanism comprising:

a. a blocking piece for blocking said firing element;

characterized in that rearward trigger motion cams said blocking piece to an unblocked position.

14 ~~174~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~173~~ wherein said blocking piece has a transverse cantilever projection.

15 ~~175~~. (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~173~~ wherein a positive stop limits the maximum downward position of said blocking piece.

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16 ~~176~~ (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~173~~ wherein said blocking piece is accessed for camming through a window in said frame.

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~~17~~ ~~177~~ (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~173~~ wherein a camming stud engages a cam track.

18 ~~178~~ (new): In a firearm having a sear, a trigger, a triggerbar capable of rotation relative to said trigger, and a longitudinally slidable firing element with a radial cantilever projection; a passive safety mechanism comprising:

a. a blocking piece for blocking said firing element;

characterized in that said blocking piece acts directly upon said projection.

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19 ~~179~~ (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~178~~ wherein said projection extends downward. ~~SE~~

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20 ~~180~~ (new): The passive safety mechanism of claim ~~178~~ wherein said projection comprises a sear catch.

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